

such body, as 4, Figs. 3 and 4, here also of wood, may be bored radially at any number of preferably equally spaced points, and the space thus formed packed with the mass, as indicated at 5. The borings so formed may, as indicated in Fig. 5, be fluted and the mass be in the form of plugs occupying the borings and interlocked with their flutings, as shown in Fig. 5. In either of these two instances the disposition of the mass should be such that when the buoyant element is floating on the water some of said mass should be exposed to the air.

To render said element captive there is a flexible connector 7 attached in the present instance to what I term the float member (to wit, 2 or 4) and this may be connected to any relatively fixed point, as to some point of the catch-basin 8 in which the buoyant element is placed. However, I prefer, as indicated, to provide an assembly which will include its own anchoring medium and so may be deposited in the water *x*, wherefore a weight 9 is attached to the chain.

If the mass comprises the ingredients and their proportions substantially as stated one advantage will be that the disintegration of the mass will proceed slowly and nevertheless the toxic action will be perfectly effective until the mass has completely wasted away. The hereinbefore mentioned pyrethrum solution may be formed with the aid of kerosene, for example.

Having thus fully described my invention what I claim is:

1. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having a superficial portion thereof including insect-toxic ingredients, one of which is volatile and the other dispersive in the water in which said element is floated, and a water-soluble binder for said ingredients.

2. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having one superficial portion thereof including a volatile insect-toxic ingredient and a binder for said ingredient and another superficial portion thereof including an insect-toxic ingredient and a water-soluble binder for such ingredient.

3. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having a plastic mass affording an exposed surface of said element and including insect-toxic ingredients, one of which is volatile and the other dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

4. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having a plastic mass affording an exposed surface of said element and including, with matter dispersed in the mass and having less displacement than water, insect-toxic ingredients, one of which is volatile and the other dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

5. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having a plastic mass affording an exposed surface of said element and including, with water-soluble particles, insect-toxic ingredients, one of which is volatile and the other of which is insoluble but dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

6. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having plastic mass-portions

affording exposed surface-portions of said element and one of said portions including a volatile insect-toxic ingredient and the other including an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

7. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having plastic mass-portions affording exposed surface-portions of said element and one of said portions including a volatile insect-toxic ingredient and the other including, with matter dispersed therein and having less displacement than water, an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

8. The hereindescribed buoyant insect-exterminating element having plastic mass-portions affording exposed surface-portions of said element and one of said portions including a volatile insect-toxic ingredient and the other including, with water-soluble particles, an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which said element is floated.

9. An assembly for the purpose described comprising a buoyant element including an insect-toxic ingredient dispersive in the water in which said element is floated, a weight, and a flexible connection connecting the weight and said element.

10. The hereindescribed insect-exterminating element comprising, with a plastic mass including an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in water in which said element is floated and which mass has per se greater displacement than water, a body forming a unit with said mass and having sufficiently less displacement than the mass to render said element buoyant.

11. The hereindescribed insect-exterminating element comprising, with a plastic mass including an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which said element is floated and which mass has per se greater displacement than water, a body coated by said mass and having sufficiently less displacement than the mass to render said element buoyant.

12. The hereindescribed insect-exterminating element comprising, with a plastic mass including an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which said element is floated and which mass has per se greater displacement than water, a body bored to receive said mass and having sufficiently less displacement than the mass to render said element buoyant.

13. The hereindescribed insect exterminating element having a plastic mass affording an exposed surface of said element and including, with matter dispersed in the mass and having less displacement than water, an insect-toxic ingredient which is dispersive in the water in which the element is placed.

14. The hereindescribed insect exterminating element having a plastic mass affording an exposed surface of said element and including, with water-soluble particles, an insect-toxic ingredient which is insoluble but dispersive in the water in which said element is placed.

ROBERT HUNT.